

In the claims:

1-2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) A method of providing compensation information over a communication network, the method comprising:

prompting, over the communication network, a user to select an indication of a job from a plurality of job categories;

receiving, over the communication network, a selection by the user of a job category;

retrieving, from a database containing compensation information associated with jobs, desired compensation information corresponding to the selection by the user of the job category;

transmitting the desired compensation information to the user over the communication network;

prompting the user to select job comparison information to compare the desired compensation information associated with the selected job class and selected job titles with at least one of a national average compensation associated with the selected job class and job title, compensation for the selected job class and job title associated with a different geographic region than the selected geographic region, and compensation for the selected job class and the selected geographic region with a different job title associated with the selected job class;

receiving, over the communication network, a selection by the user of comparison information;

retrieving, from the database containing compensation information associated with jobs, desired comparison compensation information corresponding to the selection by the user of the comparison information;

transmitting the desired comparison compensation information to the user over the communication network in addition to the desired compensation information in a format for comparing the desired compensation information and the desired comparison compensation information; and

transmitting, over the communication network to the user, indicia of links to job opportunities, the links being selectable by the user to be connected via the communication network to information relating to at least one opportunity for a job corresponding to the selected job category.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the prompting includes prompting the user to select a job class from a list of job classes and to select a job from a list of jobs within the selected job class.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the prompting includes prompting for a geographic area of interest for the job.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the geographic area is one of a postal code and a state/metropolitan area.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the prompting includes prompting the user to select from a list of state/metropolitan areas.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 further comprising providing a description of at least one job upon request by the user.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the compensation information comprises salary information.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the salary information comprises salary amounts of a plurality of percentiles of salaries associated with the job selected by the user.

11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the desired compensation information is transmitted in a format adapted for graphical display by a user device.

13. (canceled)

14. (presently amended) A system for providing compensation information, the system comprising:

an interface module configured to provide prompts to a communication network for a user and to receive user-entered data from the network, the prompts including job data indicative of jobs, at least one prompt for the user to select at least a portion of the job data, and a prompt for selecting a geographic region, the user-~~entered~~ selected data ~~indicating~~ including at least a selected portion of the job data indicative of at least one job, and a selected geographic region;

a compensation module coupled to the interface module and configured to acquire compensation information corresponding to the at least a ~~the~~ selected portion of the job data and to provide the compensation information to the interface module;

wherein the prompts include at least one comparison prompt for the user to select other job data ~~of from~~ at least one of a national average of compensation associated with a job ~~of from~~ the ~~at least a~~ selected portion of the job data, ~~the a job of from the~~ at least a portion of the job data and a geographic location different than that of the ~~at least a~~ selected portion of the job data, and a geographic location and a job class ~~of the from~~ at least a portion of the job data with a different job than that of the ~~at least a~~ select portion of the job data;

wherein the interface module is further configured to provide the compensation information from the compensation module to the network for the user; and

wherein the interface module is further configured to provide an opportunities link that is selectable by the user to connect the user via the communication network to information relating to at least one opportunity corresponding to the selected job data.

15. (previously presented) The system of claim 14 wherein the at least one prompt for the user to select include prompts for job classes and jobs within the job classes.

16. (previously presented) The system of claim 15 wherein the prompts for the job classes and the jobs within the job class are a list of selectable job class titles and lists of selectable job titles of jobs within the associated job classes, respectively.

17. (previously presented) The system of claim 15 wherein the at least a portion of the job data prompted for the user to select is at least one of a job class title and a job title of a job

within a job class.

18. (previously presented) The system of claim 14 further comprising a database, coupled to the compensation module, that stores compensation information associated with at least one of job classes and job titles within the job classes, wherein the compensation module is configured to search the database and to retrieve the compensation information, corresponding to the job data for the at least one job, from the database in order to acquire the compensation information.

19. (previously presented) The system of claim 14 wherein the user-entered data is indicative of one of a zip code and a state/metropolitan area to indicate the selected geographic region.

20. (previously presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the prompts include a list of selectable state/metropolitan areas.

21. (previously presented) The system of claim 14 wherein the interface module is configured to provide descriptions related to jobs.

22. (previously presented) The system of claim 14 wherein the compensation information comprises salary information.

23. (previously presented) The system of claim 22 wherein the salary information includes salary amounts of a plurality of percentiles of salaries associated with the job data.

24-25. (canceled)

26. (previously presented) The system of claim 14 wherein the interface module and the compensation module comprise computer-readable instructions configured to be read by, and to control, a processor.

27-33. (canceled)

34. (previously presented) The system of claim 14 wherein the opportunities link includes job opportunities selectable by the user to connect the user via the communication network to information relating to at least one job opportunity corresponding to the selected job data.

35. (previously presented) The system of claim 14 wherein the opportunities link is provided to the interface module adjacent to the displayed job data.

36-37. (canceled)

38. (New) A method of providing compensation information over a communication network, the method comprising:

receiving, over the communication network, an input by the user of a requested job category;

retrieving, from a database containing compensation information associated with job categories, requested compensation information corresponding to the requested job category input by the user;

transmitting the requested compensation information to the user over the communication network; and

transmitting, over the communication network to the user, indicia of links to job opportunities corresponding to the requested job category, the links being selectable by the user to be connected via the communication network to information relating to at least one opportunity for a job corresponding to the requested job category.

39. (New) A system for providing compensation information to a user over a communication network, the system comprising:

a computer processor including a server adapted to transmit and received data over a network, a database of job categories and associated compensation information and at least one data storage device for storing said database;

a first prompt prompting a user to input a job category.

the server being adapted to transmit the first prompt over the communications network to the user;

the server being adapted to receive over the communication network from the user an indication of a requested job category;

the server being adapted to request from the database, compensation information corresponding to the requested job category from the user;

the server being adapted to transmit over the communication network to the user, the compensation information corresponding to the requested job category; and indicia of links to job opportunities corresponding to the requested job category, the links being selectable by the user to be connected via the communication network to information relating to at least one opportunity for a job corresponding to the requested job category.